

## **Eligibility for Independent Living Services**

To be eligible for Independent Living Services in Idaho, youth must meet all of the following criteria:

- A youth must be, or have been, the responsibility of the State or Indian Tribe either through a court order or voluntary placement agreement with the child's family;
- Only youth between the ages of fourteen (14) to twenty-one (21) years are eligible for services and use of funds through the independent living program;
- A youth must have resided in an eligible placement setting which includes foster care, group care, Indian boarding school, or similar foster care placement and excludes inpatient hospital stays, detention facilities, forestry camps, or other settings primarily designed for services to delinquent youth; and
- A youth must have resided in an eligible foster care setting for ninety (90) cumulative days after the 14th birthday.

Youth ages 14 to 18 who are in DHW custody are eligible for IL services even if a portion of the 90 days after reaching 14 was spent in a court-ordered in-home visit.

Room and board services are available only to those eligible youth, including American Indian/Alaska Native youth, who have aged out of foster care settings upon reaching the age of eighteen (18) years, but have not yet reached the age of twenty-one (21).

If a youth is determined eligible for independent living services and is subsequently adopted, the youth remains eligible for independent living services until age 21. The only exception is that youth adopted before the age of 16 are not eligible for ETV even if they meet IL eligibility requirements.